



# RECTORTOWN Reporter



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## LETTER TO CHURCH FAMILY

By Pastor Jonathan Lamb

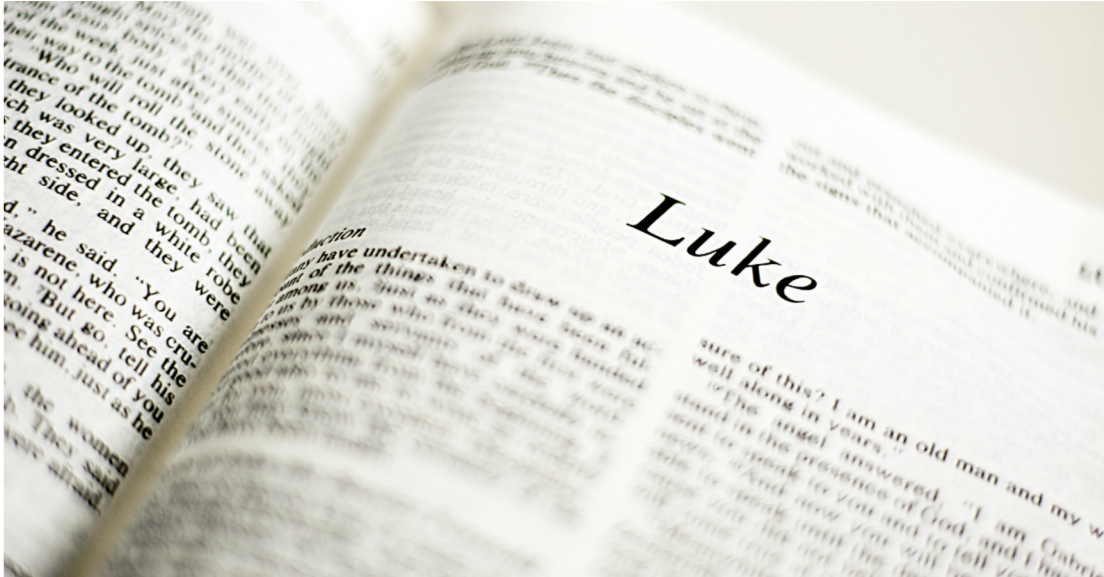


Dear Church Family,

I hope your new year is off to a good start. I wanted to inform you, that after a period of discernment, I have decided to pursue chaplaincy or extension ministry as of July 2024. I had previously worked as a hospital chaplain and seen the fruit of that ministry. It has been my joy to serve you as your pastor for the past two years, participating with you in life and many ministry events. Over the next six months, our Bishop and District Superintendent, Rev. Victor Gomez, and other cabinet members will be discerning together who would be the best fit as a pastor for Middleburg-Rectortown Cooperative Parish. They will be using the input and suggestions from the Staff Pastor Parish Relationship Committee to assist in the process. I believe there are many good things ahead for the Middleburg-Rectortown Cooperative Parish. Both congregations have met together this Autumn to discern how to combine energies as a Cooperative Parish to do work for God's kingdom in the local area. During this first month, we will be considering how to expand our ministry focus. Additionally, information will be shared about the ministry opportunities in the Newsletter, Announcements, and Bulletin. I will do everything I can to assist you in these efforts over the next few months.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Jonathan J. Lamb

## GOSPEL OF LUKE BIBLE STUDY



Join Pastor Jonathan for a new episode on a chapter of Luke every Tuesday at Noon. You can follow Pastor Jonathan at his YouTube Channel, linked below.

<https://www.youtube.com/@jonathanlamb5990>

You can also catch up on Pastor Jonathan's previous series on the letter of 1 John on the same channel!

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## MOMENT FOR MISSION



At the time of the last United States census, nearly one in five Americans were reported to have a disability.

Disabilities can include trouble hearing, seeing and walking, as well as mental impairment often associated with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Aging populations are the most vulnerable; however, people of all ages can have disabilities.

Each year, The United Methodist Church observes Disability Awareness Sunday as a reminder that the church is called to be in ministry with all of God's children, regardless of abilities and needs. It is a Sunday when we are called to look for the overlooked and to listen for those with no voice. Whether it is the elderly member that now has trouble hearing, the child diagnosed with autism, or the young person in a wheelchair, we are reminded on Disability Awareness Sunday that the doors of our church must swing open wide enough for all of God's children.



## GUEST PASTORS



We extend our warmest gratitude to both of guest pastors for joining us on January 21st and January 28th. Their presence and insightful messages truly enriched our community, leaving a lasting impact on all who had the privilege of hearing their words. Their unique perspectives and teachings added a special dimension to our Sunday services, creating a memorable experience for everyone involved.



## ASH WEDNESDAY



### **Ash Wednesday Service February 14th, 2024**

**12:00 PM MUMC  
&  
6:30 PM RUMC**

Dear Members and Friends,

As we begin the solemn season of Lent, you are warmly invited to join us for our Ash Wednesday Service at Rectortown United Methodist Church.

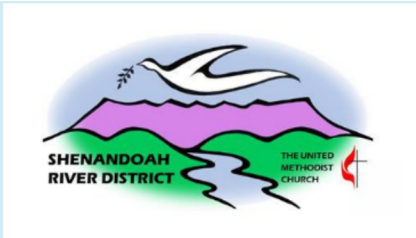
This sacred service marks the beginning of the Lenten journey, a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Join us for a meaningful evening of prayer, worship, and the imposition of ashes as we embark on this season of self-examination and spiritual growth.

We look forward to coming together as a community to seek God's presence and grace during this holy season.

Please note: All are welcome, and we encourage you to invite friends and family to share in this meaningful experience.

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## LAY SERVANT TRAINING



### SHENANDOAH RIVER DISTRICT OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## LAY SERVANTS AND ANYONE INTERESTED!

The Shenandoah River District Lay Servant Ministries Committee is holding a training day **Saturday, March 16 at Strasburg United Methodist Church.**

We will offer Basic Course, Leading Worship, and United Methodist Heritage classes. Lunch will be provided.

Online registration will open soon.

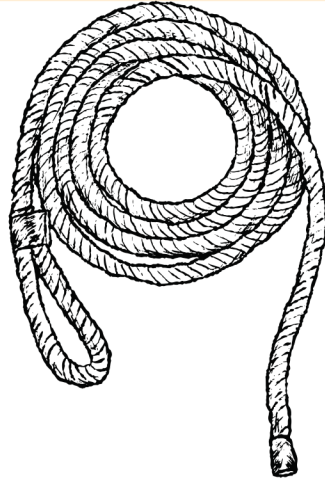
More details will be available on the District website and in the February District newsletter.

Wendell Cochran and Rev. Gary Heaton  
District Co-Lay Servant Directors  
Shenandoah River District

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## PONN FAMILY ROUND-UP



Dennis Ponn received his Contracting Officer warrant this past fall and was recently promoted to 1st Lieutenant in the US Air Force. He is stationed at Schriever Space Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Kate Ponn is a critical care registered nurse (medical intensive care unit) at Boston Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts.

Sarah Ponn is living her best life on the east coast of Florida working with kids in after-school programs.

After over 20 years living in the woods in Marshall, Ward finally relocated to the "city" and now lives just outside of Warrenton with his wife Carrie and their blended family of 6 kids (only one of which, Tom, is still at home).

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## FIG LEAF OFFICIALLY 501(C)3



Dear Fig Leaf Community,

We're thrilled to share some exciting updates about the happenings at The Fig Leaf this winter.

Firstly, we are delighted to announce that we have successfully obtained our 501(c)3 status from the federal tax authorities earlier this month. We are eagerly anticipating the same approval from Virginia in the coming weeks. Once this is finalized, we will officially be operating as our independent non-profit organization.

With this newfound status comes a set of responsibilities, including managing our own fundraising, accounting, and monthly meetings. Rest assured, we are actively working on these aspects and are enthusiastic about the journey ahead!

The Fig Leaf has been blessed with numerous generous donations of gently used clothing over the past months, and our store is now well-stocked to meet the needs of those in our community. Exciting news – we've opened a donation center in Middleburg at 17 West Federal Street, providing another convenient location for dropping off clothes.

We're thrilled to announce that our website is now live and fully functional! Take a moment to explore it at [www.thefigleaf.org](http://www.thefigleaf.org).

In the upcoming February issue of the local magazine *zest*, keep an eye out for The Fig Leaf ad, inviting individuals to contribute through donations of clothing, time, or monetary support. Additionally, you'll start spotting Fig Leaf flyers in various local public spaces to help spread the word about our cause.

As we continue to grow, we are on the lookout for volunteers to help staff our Saturday morning openings from 9 AM to 12 PM. Visit our website to sign up and become a part of our dedicated team.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been spreading the good word about The Fig Leaf! We are eager to extend our services to those in need and invite you to reach out with any questions or ideas to further enhance our mission. Feel free to contact either Abbey or Ben Wegdam; your input is invaluable.



## TREASURER & FINANCIAL SECRETARY POSITIONS



Dear Rectortown UMC Family,



We have two key positions that will need to fill to help Rectortown UMC's financial leadership. **We need you**, as a church member to step up to serve as Financial Secretary and Church Treasure.

**Financial Secretary:** An effective financial secretary will receive, record, and deposit all funds received by the congregation in a timely, thorough, and confidential manner. The financial secretary works with the treasurer and committee on finance to develop policies and procedures so that funds can be made available to support the ministry of the congregation.

**Treasurer:** An effective church treasurer disburses all funds received into the church treasury in a responsible and organized manner, with funds identified and bills paid when due, so that the ministry of the congregation can be effective.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to the office or the trustees.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

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# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Hunter Grogg - 3rd**
- Jozie Long - 4th**
- Shirley Embrey - 7th**
- Gregg Kroes - 15th**
- Katie Ferrebee - 15th**
- Kim Kroes - 16th**
- Nelson Warfield - 16th**
- Chet Walker - 23rd**
- Andrew Pearson - 25th**
- Lauren Haley - 26th**
- Julie Massaro - 28th**

# ANNIVERSARIES

- Sheila & Todd Kridler - 14th**

# FEBRUARY MEETINGS

## Admin Council

February 1st at 7pm

## Trustees

February 21st at 6pm

## Fig Leaf Meeting

February 20th at 10am

# EVENTS



**Ash Wednesday**  
**Valentine's Day**  
 February 14th



**President's Day**  
 Offices Closed  
 February 19th



# NOON TIME PRAYER

**Please Join Us**  
 Thursdays at Noon at  
 Middleburg UMC's Sanctuary



**RECTORTOWN UMC MISSION STATEMENT**  
 SERVING GOD THROUGH **P**RAYER, **A**CTION,  
 AND **L**OVE THROUGH **S**ERVICE.

## GOSPEL OF MATTHEW READING LIST

Thurs. Feb. 1	10:16-10:25
Fri. Feb. 2	10:26-39
Sat. Feb. 3	10:40-11:10
Sun. Feb. 4	11:11-11:19
Mon. Feb. 5	11:20-30
Tues. Feb. 6	12:1-14
Wed. Feb. 7	12:15-30
Thurs. Feb. 8	12:31-42
Fri. Feb. 9	12:43-50
Sat. Feb. 10	13:1-9
Sun. Feb. 11	13:10-17
Mon. Feb. 12	13:18-23
Tues. Feb. 13	13:24-35
Wed. Feb. 14	13:36-46
Thurs. Feb. 15	13:47-58
Fri. Feb. 16	14:1-12
Sat. Feb. 17	14:13-21
Sun. Feb. 18	14:22-36
Mon. Feb. 19	15:1-11
Tues. Feb. 20	15:12-28
Wed. Feb. 21	15:29-38
Thurs. Feb. 22	16:1-12
Fri. Feb. 23	16:13-23
Sat. Feb. 24	16:24-17:13
Sun. Feb. 25	17:14-17:21
Mon. Feb. 26	17:22-17:27
Tues. Feb. 27	18:1-9
Wed. Feb. 28	18:10-20
Thurs. Feb. 29	18:21-35

